

Mt. Etna Iron Works, Ironmaster's House
(Jacob Isett House)
Corner of L.R. 07020 and T.R. 461
Williamsburg
Blair County
Pennsylvania

HAER No. PA-224-D

HAER
PA,
7-WILL,
1-D-

DRAWINGS

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

MT. ETNA IRON WORKS, IRONMASTER'S HOUSE

(Jacob Isett House)

HAER No. PA-224-D

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PA,
7-WILL,
1-D-

Location: Approximately one mile east of U.S. Route 22 on TR 463, vicinity of Williamsburg, Blair County, Pennsylvania.

UTM: 17.738900.4489920

Quad: Spruce Creek

Scale: 1:24,000

Date of Construction: The Ironmaster's House, a two-story, stone residence, was constructed in 1805. Initial construction of Etna Furnace occurred in 1807; additions to the iron plantation took place in the 1820s and early 1830s when several houses, including the tenant house, were built.

Present Owner: Various private owners; the furnace stack is owned by the Blair County Historical Society.

Present Use: Private residences and agricultural endeavors.

Significance: Mt. Etna Iron Works was one of numerous charcoal iron producers in the nationally renowned Juniata Iron region. This region was a leading producer of pig iron in the antebellum years. Mt. Etna retains a number of structures associated with this iron production. A number of residences and the company store, all related to the iron plantation, remain extant. The Jacob Isett family is significant in the founding of the Juniata iron industry.

Historian: Christine Davis, Project Historian
Laura Sparks, Research Historian

Project Information: The historical research and writing for this project was carried out primarily in the summer of 1988. The intent was to produce a narrative history chronicling the furnace operations, as well as the activities of the owners and workers. The final draft of the manuscript was edited by Gray Fitzsimons and Ken Rose.

For general information regarding the Mt. Etna Iron Works and specific information on the Ironmaster's House, see HAER No. PA-224.